

September 13, 2010

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: TV White Spaces

ET Docket Nos. 04-186 and 02-380

Dear Ms. Dortch:

My company, InfoWest, Inc. provides fixed wireless broadband service in Southern Utah. We rely primarily on unlicensed spectrum to deliver broadband services to consumers that have few broadband choices. We built our network from scratch using devices authorized under Part 15 rules the FCC adopted to open up 900 MHz, 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz spectrum for unlicensed broadband devices. Thanks to the Commission's initiatives, consumers in the Southern Utah area can now get broadband service. For example, we provide service to the town of Rockville, just outside of Zion National Park. There is NO other broadband service available in this area that sees hundreds of thousands of visitors a year.

InfoWest is very interested in utilizing television white spaces so that we can expand and improve our service. Despite our expansion into many rural areas, trees and foliage are slowing the availability of our broadband services due to the limitations of the 2.4 and 5ghz spectrum. White space frequencies would help us overcome such limitations. We are committed to deploying as soon as equipment for point-to-multipoint service is commercially available.

I am pleased that the FCC will be acting on TV white space petitions for reconsideration in the near future. There are several proposals that would help us to deploy service:

First, the FCC should allow WISPs to operate using base station antennas mounted higher than 30 meters, and we should be allowed to install customer antennas (CPE) at heights below 10 meters. If we could increase our base station antenna height to 100 meters, we could cover three times more area with a base station and reduce our equipment, tower acquisition and tower lease fees by a large amount – an amount that could be the difference between deploying or not deploying in an area. We support the WISPA and Motorola proposals to increase base station height. By removing any minimum CPE height restrictions, we would not have to put tall masts on residences and we would be able to provide service at a lower cost.

Second, we believe we should be allowed to operate with power in excess of 4 Watts EIRP in rural areas. As is the case with tower height, operating with higher power will give us a greater coverage area and we will not need to spend as much money on infrastructure.





Third, we are very concerned about a proposal made by FiberTower and others to license white space spectrum for point-to-point wireless backhaul. Not only would adopting this proposal take six channels (36 MHz) and perhaps more channels away from us, but WISPs also would have to protect these licensed links. Moreover, channels and areas far beyond the links would be blocked because the signals from the licensed links would overshoot the path and the endpoints. This is due to the low-coast, low-gain antennas FiberTower wants to use. We also would not deploy if a licensed point-to-point user could come along later and put us out of business with a licensed link. We support the views expressed by WISPA in their September 8 letter and ask the FCC to reject the FiberTower proposal.

Thank you for considering the small WISPs like InfoWest who have been trying for years to provide service in areas where larger companies have not invested. We look forward to seeing TV Whitespaces opened to help us be more successful in bringing more of Southern Utah broadband in the near future.

Sincerely,

Kandy Cosby, Vice President